

Message Text

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15

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 ADP-00 IO-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01

PRS-01 SS-14 USIA-12 RSR-01 /132 W
----- 061204

R 291445 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9858

INFO USINT ALGIERS

USINT CAIRO

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR LY UK IT US

SUBJECT: EVACUATION DATE FETE

1. RCC MEMBER 'UMAR MUHAYSHI ADDRESSED SCANTY, UN-ENTHUSIASTIC ASSEMBLAGE AT TRIPOLI' S MARTYER' S SQUARE MARCH 28, AT WHAT TURNED OUT TO BE LOW PROFILE HIGH POINT OF CELEBRATION OF EVACUATION OF BRITISH FORCES FROM LIBYA THREEYEARS AGO. FBIS' EXCERPTS OF MUHAYSHI ADDRESS (1844 MARCH 28) ARE FAIR MEASURE OF ITS PERFERSED FORM BUT HACKNEYED CONTENT.

2. MUHASYSHI TOOK AFTER BRITISH FOR THEIR BETTER- KNOWN SINS AGAINST ARABS, I. E. BELFOUR DECLARATION, ROLE IN MANDATE, AUTHORSHIP OF 1967 UNSC RESOLUTION; CASTIGATED " UK, US, AND WESTERN IMPERIALISM, ESPECIALLY BRITISH AND AMERICAN AMBASSADORS' TIES TO EX- ROYAL REGIME, AND ITALIAN " FASCISTS"; HAILED CHAIRMAN QADHAFI AS " MOST IMPORT" OF RCC MEMBERS AND FREE OFFICERS; EXCORIATED BOTH EAST AND WEST; AND WAVED BANNER OF ISLAM. ALL IN ALL, IT WAS HO- HUM AFFAIR. SIMILARLY, " POPULAR" MARCH
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THROUGH TRIPOLI AFTER SPEECH WAS DREARY BUSINESS WITH
LITTLE ENTHUSIASM DISPLAYED EITHER BY MARCHERS, MOSTLY
SCHOOL CHILDREN, OR BY THIN LINES OF ONLOOKERS.

3. SHARING PLATFORM WITH MUHAYSHI WERE ALGERIAN FORMIN
ABDELAZIZ BOUTEFLIKA AND BOUMEDIENE' S ADVISOR IDRIS AL-
JAZA' IRI ALONG WITH MUFTI, SHEIKH SUBHI, SCATTERING OF
LARG MINISTERS, CD MEMBERS, AND TRIPOLI LEADERS.
ALGERIANS' PRESENCE MAY RELATE TO VISIT TO TRIPOLI OF
PRESIDENT BOUMEDIENCE WHO WAS SCHEDULED ARRIVE BY PLANE
AT ' UQBA BIN NAF ' AFB AT ABOUT 1400 MLOCAL MARCH 29.

4. COMMENT: WHAT LITTLE COMMENT WE HAVE PICKED UP
ABOUT SPEECH RELATES TO RESTRAINT OF AUDIENCE EVEN
WHEN QADHAFI' S NAME MENTIONED IN RINGING TONES. HEAVY
SECURITY FORCES, WHICH KEPT CROWD AT CONSIDERABLE
DISTANCE FROM DIGNATORIES, WERE REMARKED. QADHAFI' S ABSENCE
SPARKED SPECULATION HE MAY BE RELUCTANT APPEAR
IN PUBLIC AFTER PERSONALLY WITNESSING OUTBREAK OF
DEMONSTRATIONS IN BENGHAZI FEBRUARY 26.
JOSIF

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*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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